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## Phoenix, 2004-02

Student Life

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# Phoenix

The Student Newspaper Serving Governors State University

## GSU Celebrates 50th Anniversary of Brown Case

Jean Biba-Brown  
Sr. Staff Writer

GSU kicked off a year-long commemoration on Jan. 29, 2004, of the landmark 1954 school desegregation case *Brown v. Board of Education*.

The event featured three viewings of the movie *Separate But Equal* in Engretson Hall, which audiences watched while eating popcorn. A follow-up discussion was held on Feb. 4, 2004, with remarks from several faculty members.

About 20 students and faculty attended the 4:30 p.m. discussion group in Sherman Hall. Dr. June Patton, professor of history and public policy and co-chair of the anniversary planning committee, provided a historical backdrop of the *Brown* case for the audience.

Dr. Larry Levinson, professor of political science, and Dr. Donald Culverson, professor of political and justice studies, discussed the social and economic impacts of *Brown*.

The *Brown* case is significant in many ways, as it not only challenged the Jim Crow laws of legalized segregation

resulting from *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896), but also provided fuel for the civil rights movement of the 1960's.

"Most people don't understand how far-reaching *Brown* was and how it impacted all levels of society," said Patton, whose aim is to educate people on the importance of the *Brown* decision. "The original intent was on African-Americans, but it permeated all groups—women, gay rights. There were ramifications for all groups."

The *Brown* case involved thirteen African-American parents who challenged the school segregation policy of Topeka, Kansas, by attempting to enroll their children in all-white schools.

Although a total of 20 children were involved in the case, Oliver Brown's daughter Linda's name was used in the case.

Like millions of other African-American children, Linda was forced to attend an all-black school two miles from her home when an all-white school stood only four blocks away. The African-American children were subjected to over-crowded schools with inferior facilities, out-of-date textbooks, and

**"Brown" Continued on Page 2**



Photo by Taheria Brown

*"The Dream is the Vision," presented in the Performing Arts Center*

## Essay Contest To Award Half A Million Dollars In Prizes

(NAPSA)-A worldwide essay competition, designed to encourage people to think about the benefits of purpose, invites submissions through May 31, 2004. The Power of Purpose Awards, being conducted entirely on the Internet at [www.powerofpurpose.org](http://www.powerofpurpose.org), is soliciting thought-provoking, well-reasoned essays about noble purpose—why we need purpose, why we want purpose, and how we can turn it into a result with active power, the spark that makes ordinary people do extraordinary things.

The value of having an individual goal or purpose has been around since the beginning of time. But interest in purpose and its power has recently exploded, as evidenced by the astonishing sales record of the book *The Purpose Driven Life*—13 million copies sold—written by Rick Warren,

one of the five distinguished judges for this contest. Everyone, it seems, would like to have a life filled with more meaning. What can be done to steer people to humanitarian service? What public policy should be changed to improve lives? How can people be persuaded to help a neighbor, instead of focusing only on their own needs? How can an idea from one single individual blossom into a group working as a team toward a noble goal?

Power of Purpose Awards Judge Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund, says, "All movements are the result of conscious and courageous decisions by people who are driven by their common sense of purpose. Your thoughts can create

**"Essay" continued on Page 8**

## Committee's Vision Reaches Crowd

Stephanie N. Blahut  
Editor in Chief

On Jan. 27, 2004, GSU honored the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in "The Dream is the Vision."

The array of dance, music and speeches got under way at 10 a.m. in the Center for Performing Arts with the posting of colors by Carver Military Academy's JROTC Color Guard. The Kemmet African American Dance Ensemble performed the Lamba (Dance of Life and Dance of Transition) and Donda (Dance of Celebration). Introduced by Student Life Graduate Assistant Taheria Brown was Rev. Dr. Winston Johnson, staff minister and director of Youth Services at Christ Universal Temple. Rev. Johnson presented his original speech entitled, "What you have to do to make the Dream Come True."

Other notable speakers included Dr. Stuart Fagan, GSU president; Linda Williams, student senate president; and Dr. Paul Keys, GSU provost.

"The Dream is the Vision," was presented by the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee, and was also part of GSU's year-long celebration of the 50th Anniversary of *Brown vs. Board of Education*.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born Jan. 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Ga. In 1955 King earned his Ph.D. from Boston University. He was a leader in the civil rights movement and a pioneer in the peaceful non-violent demonstration for human rights. Among some of his famous speeches are "I Have a Dream." In 1964 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. It was only five years later he was shot and killed in Memphis, Tenn.

## Upcoming features in the March Phoenix: GSU Events in Honor of Black History Month



Photo by Taheria Brown



Photo by Anthony Lewis

Student Life Graduate Assistant Taheria Brown mans one of two voting tables set up during the Student Senate elections, and the vote regarding fee increases. See page 4 for election results.



# Commentary

## One Voter's Rant

Dear Editor:

I believe in being honest with my fellow Americans. Come Nov. 6, 2004, I really don't want to vote for any politician. I trust neither the Republicans nor the Democrats. In my opinion they are all certified crooks.

When you vote, the first course of action of any politician is to get re-elected.

The election process is a huge joke that our forefathers invented centuries ago. They may have wanted a country full of freedoms and hopes, but they settled for the ultimate joke – the constitution and the Declaration of Independence. Folks, the punch line is this: your vote doesn't count! You don't count! We are the reflections of our politicians. I mean, how can we as citizens blame an elected official when we can't even spell the word official?! We are a backwards people! Look at us. We discount the lives of our heroes and their dedicated loved ones all in the name of "so-called" freedom and democracy. When will we wake up and realize that it's all a game folks?

Today's politics reminds us of cowboys and the "wild wild" west. We have our backs turned to our opponents. We have a couple seconds to quickly turn around and shoot our opponent in the chest. This is what our voting process is like as well. When you wake up in the morning, get out of bed and proceed to fill out a form which is either scanned or dropped in a big box, we don't have a clue to the actual events that will soon take place. Because we then hear about the electoral college, and someone like George W. Bush is elected when the majority of us citizens voted for someone else! We are not a democracy. Instead, we are a comedy for other societies to be entertained by. We constantly play jokes on ourselves while the world sits and watches. We talk about how every vote counts and then we watch some suits as they elect the more powerful suits that sit

in Washington. Moreover, our society states that all men are created equal, but we still have traditional social barriers that prohibit minorities and poor whites from achieving the American dream. Is any part of our society what we claim it is?

What is the American dream? Is it a delicious (mad cow) cheese burger, a society that forces its women to degrade themselves, the tons of materialistic crap we buy just to collect dust, or the dysfunctional American family, half of which eventually breaks up?

I don't have faith in any politician because our country seems as though it will always face economic disparities. From the beginning of our great country's history we have also struggled against the plague that is racism and have yet to prevail. Let us not forget also the degradation of society that constantly spits on the fabric of our noble Declaration of Independence and our United States Constitution.

Now, let me tell you about the real Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution. Minorities and women were not included in it. However, they are like the batteries one must buy to operate a remote control; they are essential to the constitution. The original remote switched to one frequency – Caucasians getting rich. Nowadays you can't blame the Caucasian American because every other race and creed of American has become crooked as hell.

I have lost all faith in our country's leaders, be they Democrat or Republican. However, come Nov. 6, 2004 I am voting Democrat. The way I see it, they are the lesser of two evils.

If I could vote for anyone, I would vote for Janet Jackson. At least she bares all.

Sincerely,

Claude Hill "The Wandering Alumni"

## "Brown" continued from Front Page

inadequate supplies.

The Topeka case went to the Supreme Court where it joined several other states including South Carolina, Delaware, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. Future Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, then a lawyer for the NAACP, argued the case for nearly two years before the court came to the unanimous decision on May 17, 1954, that "separate educational facilities are inherently unequal" and violated the Fourteenth Amendment.

Several more events are planned at GSU for the year, including speakers, films, panel discussions and a teleconference. Patton hopes that at the classroom level instructors at GSU incorporate discussions of *Brown* into their courses throughout the year.

Although many schools in America still remain segregated in their culture, Patton hopes that the yearlong commemoration will challenge Americans to explore these questions: "Why did we need *Brown*? What was the impact? Where do we go from here?" Only then can change come about.

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## Pay-to-Print Revisited

Dear Readers:

Please accept my apologies for omitting a vital word from the sentence which read, "...as I understand it, the Student Senate did vote on this fee as they do with many of the other fees assessed by GSU," contained in a letter to the Editor in January. With regards to the printing fees in the Technology Center, this sentence should have read, "...as I understand it, the Student Senate did NOT vote on this fee as they do with many of the other fees assessed by GSU." I apologize for any confusion this statement might have caused. We are fortunate to have a Student Senate looking out for the students' best interests, and it was unfortunate indeed that they were not contacted regarding this change in policy.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Lenburg

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University Park, IL 60466



# Commentary

## GSU Passes the Test

Stephanie N. Blahut  
Editor in Chief

In the December 2003 *Phoenix* I wrote a commentary entitled, "Does GSU Pass the Test?" Since its publication I have met with PPO to discuss what exactly the safety procedures are regarding a fire alarm. Since they took the time to go over these procedures with me, I wanted to share them with the GSU population.

The fire alarm system is currently managed by Honeywell, a company which is on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The alarms are tested weekly during the midnight shift to ensure they are functioning properly. At that time the fire pumps (pumping equipment used in sprinkler, hose and standpipe systems) and fire valves are also checked. Sprinklers are located throughout the university and will trigger in the event of a fire.

Each wing of the university is individually alarmed; so an alarm in the F wing will not trigger alarms in the other wings. In the event that an alarm is triggered, the Department of Public Safety (DPS) receives a signal and is the first to inspect the scene along with building engineers. The University Park Fire Department (UPFD) will not respond to an alarm unless they are notified to do so by DPS.

One of the most important items of information is that GSU undergoes fire inspections each year which are conducted by the UPFD. At that time, any violations are documented and the university has a certain amount of time to come into compliance with the violated ordinance(s). These inspection violations also lead to fines and possible closure.

With regard to safety procedures and information, the idea of safety manuals and a committee is under consideration. The possibility of incorporating safety information into the new student orientation is also under consideration.

For any questions, concerns, or comments you can contact the PPO department at 708-534-4515.

### GSU Alpha Sigma Lambda

Dear Editor:

We would like to welcome the newest club, Gamma Sigma Upsilon chapter of the Alpha Sigma Lambda National Honor Society, to Governors State University. Its purpose is to provide an association for and recognition of academically outstanding undergraduate students. To meet the standards the students will be selected only from the highest ten percent of the class, they must have completed 24 graded credits and be matriculated in an undergraduate degree program.

Under the guidance and expertise of advisor Dr. Jim Howley, Director of Career Services, Alpha Sigma Lambda had their first meeting in December, 2003. At that time club members elected officers: Pamela A. Thompson, president; Mary A. Bragg, vice president; Sue Riordan, secretary; and Ron Kosary, treasurer.

The inducted Alpha Sigma Lambda members include: Susan Akstins, Mary Barnas, Bev Barnes, Theresa Connolly, Christy Cooper, Sara Doede, Adelia Garcia, Donna Garrity, Lisa Hilger, Heather Hop, Lonnie James, Camille Johnson, Sharon Koenig, Kimberly McGuire, Alison Mensing, Mary Moore, LeeAnn Morin, Donna Murphy, Keith Mussman, Betty Pekau, Renee Peters, Joshua Schoot, Dawn Shields, Lisa Sobol, Barbara Sorensen, Julia Stiles, Kathleen Stone, Kriston Thirion, Kathleen Uher, Kimberly Vaccaro, Patrice Washington, and Linda West.

The club members wish to express their sincere gratitude to Dr. Lorraine Sibbet, Dr. Diane Balin and Dr. Kaye Woodward, for their time and energy in bringing Alpha Sigma Lambda National Honor Society to Governors State University and its students. Provost Keys and his staff continue to be most supportive of the GSU (Gamma Sigma Upsilon) chapter.

Sincerely,  
Pamela Thompson, President & Mary Bragg, Vice President

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I won't

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### Voting Plea

Dear Editor:

As the primary elections draw nearer, we are writing this letter to you because we believe that the citizens of Illinois have an opportunity to elect as their new United States Senator, a person of exceptional ability and qualifications. We strongly believe that Barack Obama is a person who can help bring this country back on track. His credentials are impeccable, and he is a person of the highest integrity.

We first met Obama in 1998 when Pam Woodward ran for state senator. Obama hosted several coffees for her campaign. In our conversations with him we found that the issues of most importance to him (education, health care, human rights, finance reform and ethics) were issues of interest to us.

After Woodward's campaign was over, we both read Barack's autobiography, "Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance." What amazed us was that this book, written by a 33-year-old, contained the wisdom of someone much older. Obama's story is one of discovery, and in it he describes the experience of growing up the son of a Caucasian woman from Kansas and an African father from Kenya. Obama comes to understand his father and travels to Kenya to meet his half-brothers and sisters, his aunts and his uncles. It is a moving account and it furthered our impression that Obama was a person of great depth and insight.

After graduating from Columbia University, Obama worked as a community organizer first in Harlem and later in the Altgeld area of Chicago. He then went to Harvard Law School, where he was the first African-American president of the Harvard Law Review. He is currently a law professor specializing in constitutional law at the University of Chicago Law School.

In 1996 Obama was elected as State Senator in the Hyde Park area and has served in the Illinois Senate ever since. As the chairperson of the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare, he was the chief sponsor of a bill that extended the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) by three years and increased the number of children eligible by 20,000. You may be aware of his legislation requiring videotaping of police interrogations, and this fall he introduced legislation to address the concerns of south suburban Metra riders. The turnstiles are already gone and other improvements will follow. In the last year alone, Barack Obama has passed over 25 pieces of legislation and introduced countless more.

Obama is progressive in his approach to health care, women's health issues, education, social services and human rights. He questioned the premise underlying the war in Iraq before most people knew that the premise was, at best, overstated. He has questioned the wisdom of Bush's tax cuts, believing the economy would better be served by focusing tax cuts on those who need relief and who will put the money immediately into the economy for necessities. You can learn more about him by visiting his Website: [www.obamaforillinois.com](http://www.obamaforillinois.com).

We urge you to support Barack Obama in the Democratic primary on March 16. If elected in November, he will be the only African-American in the Senate and only the third African-American U.S. Senator in history. This makes his election even more historic and important. He is a candidate whom Illinoisans can be proud of, and he restores in us the hope we have for the greatness of this country. Obama is facing a competitive primary and he needs your support. Obama's south suburban campaign headquarters is located in the Centel Plaza at 4331 Lincoln Highway, Matteson, phone 708-679-8960. Please help Barack with your vote and by urging friends and family to learn about him and support him.

Most sincerely,  
Pam & Addison Woodward  
Frankfort, IL

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# Around Campus

## GSU Welcomes New VP

**Christina Carney**  
Section Editor

GSU announces a new addition this month with the appointment of the new Vice President of Development, Dr. James Britt. Dr. Britt has just relocated from Georgia after previously living in the south suburbs of Chicago while serving at St. Xavier University. In addition, he has performed in similar positions such as educational fundraising. But beyond this business-like capacity, Dr. Britt has something more.

Dr. James Britt has a Ph.D. in psychology and also holds both a B.A. and an M.A. in counseling. He has also been a teacher and understands how classrooms run.

Dr. Britt also understands the unique population of students at GSU and appreciates our unique mission as adult learners. To date, there are no other universities in Illinois that are limited to upper-level undergraduates and graduate students. As such, GSU is a university comprised of mainly adults – oftentimes working full-time jobs – all of who commute to campus courses or attend online

classes. Funding for GSU has come almost exclusively from the state, from tuition and from fees paid by students. Now that state funding is disappearing from the scene, private and corporate funding is more important than ever. Dr. Britt has had great experiences in the past with fundraising, mostly locally, while working as Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Marketing for St. Xavier University. He most recently comes to GSU from Georgia and plans to “aggressively pursue foundation and research grants.”

Part of the message that Dr. Britt would like to get out is that of the unique opportunities GSU can provide to potential students and the community as a whole. He enjoys the Chicagoland area and the people whose “generosity and openness [as] Midwesterners” he won’t forget.

Dr. Britt sees GSU as a unique and most welcome challenge. GSU has great hopes for Dr. Britt and welcomes him to the community. Our best wishes go out to our previous vice president of Development, Brandon Senter, who retired a few months ago.

## CBPA Offering Online Degree to Students

**Christina Carney**  
Section Editor

Recently approved and available as of the winter 2004 trimester at GSU, is the Bachelor’s of Arts in Applied Science (BABAS) program through the College of Business and Public Administration (CBPA). The program is described by Stephanie Wenzel of the CBPA as “a direct response to the needs of the many students who graduate from community colleges with technical A.A.S. degrees.”

The program is designed to use more of the technical credits earned through an Associates of Applied Science (AAS) degree in other various fields of study.

Another unique feature is the online adaptability of the degree. Once a student has met admission requirements of the AAS degree, in addition to 27 or more technical course credits, they may complete the remaining business administration course work through GSU (all optionally available through online courses). All general education requirements must also be met.

This unique opportunity gives students the option to complete their entire degree at GSU without setting foot on campus. Students may opt to complete all courses on campus, through the internet, via video, or a combination of these including correspondence courses. This option also puts GSU in the market with many other schools that are already offering online degree programs.

Since this degree has not even been marketed yet, many GSU students are unaware of the online degree even though many are familiar with online classes. Some students have concerns with the lack of student interaction and the loss of face-to-face exchange of ideas. As many are becoming more experienced with online courses, they are learning about the downsides such as lag-time in getting a response, whether it be through a slow internet connection or waiting for others to post their comments. Often, there are no lectures from an instructor – just a book and assignments that introduce subject materials followed by tests to complete the course. These facts raise further issues such as comments by David Kush, an MBA student who has taken some online classes at GSU.

David Kush, who not only obtained his undergraduate degree at GSU, and is

now pursuing a double major at the master’s level, pointed out that “one of Governor State’s better features is the small class sizes and personal contact, which is removed by the online interface.”

“This can further hurt the reputation of GSU,” said Kush.

In addition to not recommending online courses to students Kush argues that instructors become “overloaded.” Contrary to popular belief, students do not usually “skate through” the courses. Moreover, instructors spend a great deal of their time helping people with the technology rather than the teaching of the class. It is advised that only the veteran student approach online courses.

However, there are many positive benefits of the online program. It provides the opportunity for many students who have busy schedules or live far away to obtain their Bachelor’s Degree more conveniently. This could also, of course, increase enrollment of GSU and raise much needed revenues.

Today more people are “logging on” to obtain their college degrees, so technological advances in higher education can no longer be denied. More institutions are offering online degree programs. The choice to pursue the degree online through GSU will be a more economical and practical choice in regards to accreditation and price. There are a number of online degree programs which advertise lower prices; however, many of them may lack the accreditation.

As more online degrees become available, there is bound to be the lost benefit of face-to-face contact. Some benefits are the communication skills developed through classroom presentations, speeches, and discussions. However, as long as these degrees are marketable it is important that GSU, as well as other accredited colleges and universities, keep up with technology in order to remain competitive.

Further information can be obtained through the CBPA’s Academic Advising Office by calling 708-534-4391, or by e-mailing them at BPA-INFO@govst.edu. You can also visit the Illinois Virtual College (IVC) website at www.IVC.edu, or the CBPA’s program website at: <http://www.govst.edu/gcbpa>.

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[BPA-Info@govst.edu](mailto:BPA-Info@govst.edu)



Shoppers browse the “Comicapoolooza” ticket table at the Student Life Arts & Crafts sale.

## Admissions Retreat Offers New Ideas

**Stephanie N. Blahut**  
Editor in Chief

The members of the offices of Admissions took part in a retreat on Jan. 30, 2004. The retreat’s purpose was to shed light on problems being faced by each office, as well as offer a glimpse into each office’s daily routine.

The retreat featured speakers and workshops presented by the GSU administration and faculty. GSU President, Dr. Stuart Fagan, spoke on the current budget situation and general university topics. Workshops on customer service and personality traits presented by Dr.

Susan Gaffney, College of Business and Public Administration, and Eric Martin, Assistant Provost, were also a part of the retreat’s agenda.

Following the presentations, a forum took place which focused on the effects budget cuts had on current staffing and technology constraints and how to creatively combat the problems and identify weaknesses in workflows and policies.

Currently there is a similar event being planned for March, with the emphasis being placed on ideas to improve customer service and student satisfaction.

### Student Senate General Elections Winter, 2004 (February 9-10) OFFICIAL RESULTS

**Board of Trustees Student Representative**  
Joy Farmer 310

**Illinois Board of Higher Education -  
Student Advisory Committee Representative**  
George Ashford 196  
Toure Peck, Alternate 150

**Board of Governors Senators**  
Karen Lewis 44  
Gerald Hodgkin 31

**College of Arts and Sciences Senators**  
Ronke Thanni 62  
Anthony Norman 51

**College of Business and Public Administration Senators**  
Pamela Thompson 59  
Madhu Devi 36

**College of Education Senators**  
LaToya Jones 52  
Yvonna Applewhite 34

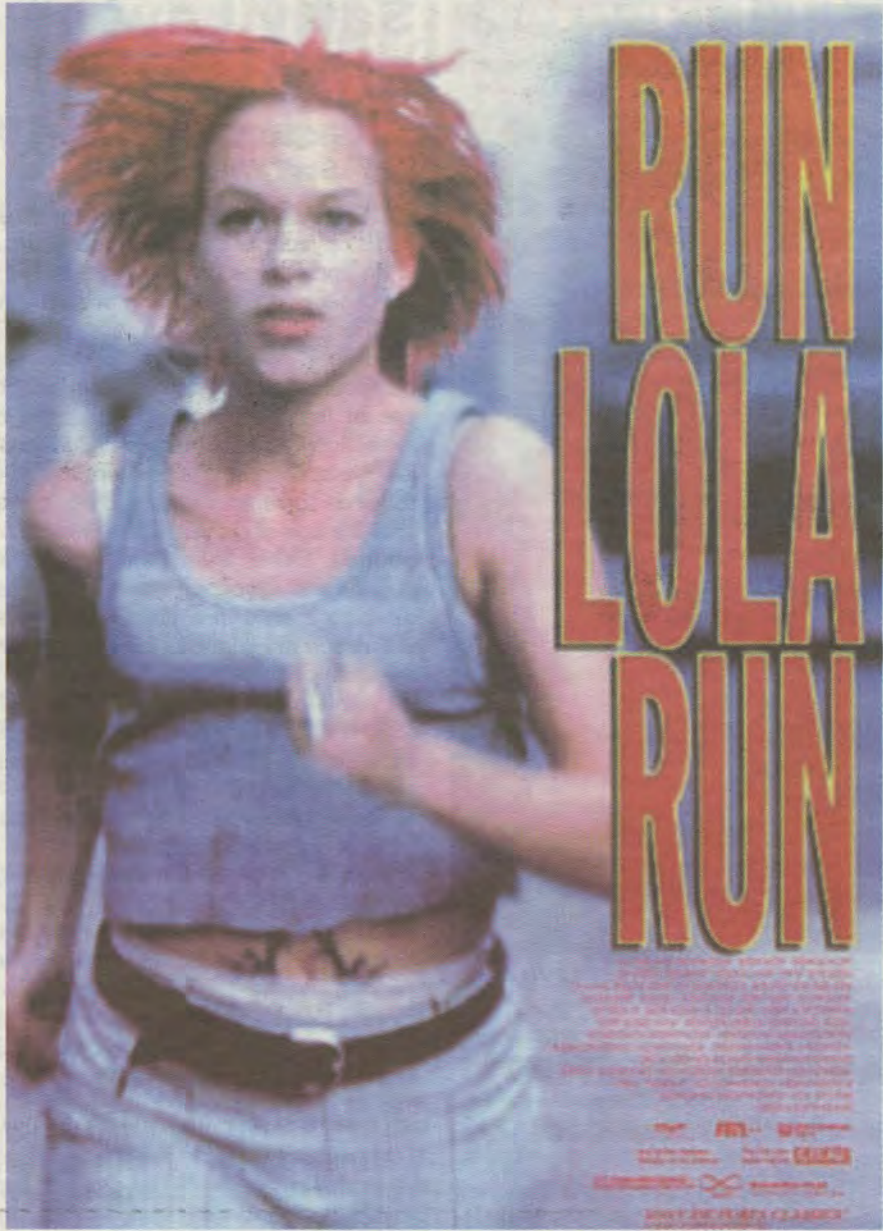
**College of Health Professions Senators**  
Linda Williams 48  
Cozette Miley 41

**Student at Large Senators**  
Derek Stevenson (CE) 227  
Elizabeth Green (CBPA) 223  
Donna Shaw (CAS) 197  
Ambrose Utin (CAS) 190  
Karen Reynolds (CE) 189  
Kim Allen (CE) 186  
Anthony Lewis (CBPA) 177  
Rhonda Ward (BOG) 169  
Lisa Hoyles (CHP) 166  
Gail Kallend (CE) 159



# Entertainment

## Run Lola Run Captures Attention in GSU Film Series



Stephanie N. Blahut  
Editor in Chief

On Feb. 4, 2003, the Transformations Film Series (brought to you by the GSU Graduate Council's Intellectual Life Subcommittee) and Professor Beth Parin featured the German film *Run Lola Run* (1998).

"It is one of my favorite movies," said Parin, in regards to why she chose to show *Run Lola Run* in the film series. "I love the energy and the emotion that come through in it."

The movie begins with the quotes, "The ball is round, the game is 90 minutes – the rest is just theory," by Sepp Herberger, German Olympic soccer coach followed by "we shall not cease from exploration. ... the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started. And know the place for the first time," found in *Little Gidding* by T.S. Eliot.

Although as people we are able to identify with many tangible fixed possessions in life, a great deal of what we experience is unpredictable. This is especially true when we re-visit the decisions we have made, especially those which have greatly impacted our lives. Among a steady stream of "what ifs," there may be some key decisions where we could've acted another way or made a different decision and changed the entire course of our lives.

"Initially I had an image of a woman running," said director Tom Tykwer in the DVD commentary of *Run Lola Run*.

The image of a woman running, along with an interest in "how time rules our lives" became the premise on which *Run Lola Run* was built.

Lola, played by Franka Potente (*Blow*, *The Bourne Identity*), is faced with the task of helping her boyfriend Manni, played by Moritz Bleibtreu (*Taking Sides*, *The Invisible Circus*), come up with 100,000 marks in twenty minutes to keep him from being killed by gangsters. The relatively simple plot has the added task of being introduced and concluded in three segments of twenty minutes each. Each twenty minute segment is introduced the same but differs in solution and outcome.

"Twenty minutes are like a whole lifetime for Lola," says Potente in an interview with *Time Out New York*.

Each segment is bonded together with a glimpse of past conversation between Lola and Manni. It is the only glimpse we have as an audience into the love that has existed between these two characters. Through these moments we are able to form a bond with them that keeps us watching the next segment.

The wrong music can screw up a film completely. In a film, music intensifies everything, said Tykwer in a statement on Sony's *Run Lola Run* website.

The movie uses high energy techno music during shots of Lola running. Not only does it intensify your emotions but it keeps you glued to the screen to see what will happen next. The soundtrack features original scores composed by Tykwer, Johnny Klimek and Reinhold Heil, with vocals by Potente. The idea was that we would hear Lola's thoughts while she is

"Lola" Continued on Page 8

## Oasis Presents Alan Parsons

Stephanie N. Blahut  
Editor in Chief

On Jan. 16, 2004, Oasis One-Sixty in Chicago Heights presented Alan Parsons Live Project with Pride of Lions.

I really didn't know what to expect upon arriving at Oasis. When I pulled into the parking lot, I noticed a long line of fans waiting outside in freezing rain and sleet. Apparently they were very dedicated to seeing this show.

I stood outside with them for about 20 minutes and during that time I listened to some of their opinions regarding the band and the venue. I heard a few people mention they had seen a Parson's show and thought it was fantastic, and were happy the show was at a venue close to them like Oasis. There were a few people who had traveled from Wisconsin. One couple had traveled from Fort Wayne, IN. Now that's dedication!

Unfortunately, the inclement weather brought complaints about standing outside. The doors were supposed to open at 7 p.m., but remained closed until about 8 p.m. Other crowd members talked about how hard it was to find the venue. There really weren't any decent size signs out front.

So, despite the wait, fans packed into the lobby for a mandatory coat check and to get into the stage area. The will-call booth was packed with people who wanted to grab any remaining tickets.

The stage and standing room were pretty vast. There were tables set up in some areas and a bar in the back of the room. The audience filled about 75 percent of the room and ranged in age from about thirty to fifty years. I felt a little out of place, but enjoyed watching adults misbehaving.



Alan Parsons Live Project plays their set at Oasis 160 in Chicago Heights

It was a good thing their children were not there to witness their parents' unruliness.

To break up the story a bit, I would like to offer a little background information. I would describe myself as a person with diverse musical taste. However, aside from references made in the *Austin Powers* movies, I was only familiar with one song by Parsons, which was "Eye in the Sky" (a ring tone of mine). I didn't realize Parsons was behind the Bull's entrance music ("Sirius"). I read some information about him, prior to the show, which said he had worked as an engineer on the Beatles' *Abbey Road* and Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon*. He worked as a producer with

"Oasis" Continued on Page 8

THERE'S NOT ENOUGH ART IN OUR SCHOOLS.

NO WONDER PEOPLE THINK

# LOUIS ARMSTRONG

WAS THE FIRST MAN TO

WALK ON THE MOON.

It's a long way from the Apollo Theater to the Apollo program. And while his playing may have been "as lively as a moon flight," as Time magazine once suggested, that would be at close as Louis Daniel Armstrong would ever get to playing "one small step for man."

But so the jazz musician of the 20th century gave

helps were simply a means of access for

himself. For no one has ever embodied the art form the way he did. It was he who helped make jazz music what it is today. It was he who was honored with the title "American greatest ambassador" by the State Department. It was he who was the first jazz musician to be on the 100 Greatest list.

Now he's back with a new experience with

the trumpet was in a quest for a universal love for everybody. Truly today's schools were so enlightened and informed as that educational was.

Also, the art was destined to be relevant in today's schools. This, despite all the studies that show parents believe music and dance and art and drama make their children much better students and better people.

If you feel like your kids aren't getting that, then please make some noise. To find out how or for more information about the benefits of art education, please visit us on the web at [AmericanForTheArts.org](http://AmericanForTheArts.org). Just like the great Louis Armstrong, all you need is a little brass.

ART. ASK FOR MORE.

For more information, visit the importance of art education, please contact [www.AmericanForTheArts.org](http://www.AmericanForTheArts.org).



# People



The BSU held a voter registration drive on Jan. 29. Their efforts helped to sign up 53 new voters for voting in the nation's 2004 elections.

Photo by Stephanie N. Blahut

## New Child Safety Law in Effect

Eddie Torba  
Staff Writer

Effective Jan. 1, 2004, children eight years or younger must be properly secured in an appropriate booster car seat.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), children should ride in a forward-facing, belt-positioned booster car seat until they are at least eight years old. The only exception is a 4-foot-9-inch child. The new law replaces the old law, where a child was required to remain in a booster car seat until the age of six years, or a weight of 70 pounds. Other than Illinois, only New Jersey and Wyoming have similar laws. Keeping a child in a proper booster seat will lessen the chance of injury or death in the case of an accident.

Violators may be subject of up to a \$500 fine for each child that is not properly secured in a booster seat. Further details about laws can be found by contacting state or local governments, or via the website [www.boostamerica.org](http://www.boostamerica.org).

Babies "R" Us, the country's largest baby retail chain, states in a press release on Dec. 3, 2003, that there are two types of booster car seats that are appropriate for the new law. The two types of booster seats are the high back booster seat and the no back booster seat. The high back booster seat is used if a car's back seat is lower than a child's ears or if the vehicle seat does not have head rest. This will help to protect a child's head and neck during road trips. The no back booster car seat is used if the car's back seat is higher than your child's ears. All booster car seats must be used in conjunction with the vehicle's lap and shoulder belts. The booster car seat raises the height of the child to provide more safety than just a seat belt.

While shopping at Babies "R" Us, Nancy McKernin, a mother of two said, "I am not excited about buying a new booster seat for my six-year-old, but I will do anything to keep her safe."

According to the NHTSA, proper use of child safety seats could have prevented nearly 500 deaths and about 56,000 serious injuries to children in the United States in just one year alone. By changing this law, the death rates and injury rates in Illinois are expected to drop.

Also according to the NHTSA, the Orland Park Police Department is now experienced with and licensed to install booster seats. Moreover, a seminar was given to many associates of the Babies "R" Us stores by the Orland Police Department allowing parents' questions to be answered by experienced individuals.

"The new law is for the safety of all children, and will be implemented to the highest degree", said Ron Saroka, Orland Park police commander. Check with local authorities or Babies "R" Us retail stores for more information regarding this new law. You can obtain information on this and other vehicle safety laws by visiting the NHTSA online at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>.

## SEA Tutoring a Success for Saukview School

Yvonna Applewhite  
Staff Writer

In the fall of 2003, GSU student Angelika Berdusis decided she would like to give something back to Saukview Elementary School. This, she decided, would be in appreciation for their participation in the College of Education's lab school program at GSU. Berdusis, education major and treasurer of the Student Education Association (SEA) at GSU, began a needs assessment of Saukview, and learned that funding for an after school tutoring program had been cut. Berdusis saw what appeared to be a tragedy as an opportunity, and immediately responded.

Berdusis established a committee called the Student Education Association Tutorial Program at Saukview Elementary School. Together the committee implemented and runs the tutoring program. It is comprised of the program coordinator and fiscal manager, Angelika Berdusis; volunteer coordinator Tom Dutton; and a public relations coordinator, Tessa Johnson. Both Berdusis and Dutton head the recruitment of tutors, as well as marketing for the program.

The SEA tutoring program recruits volunteer tutors to service the students of Saukview Elementary who have academic needs in the areas of reading and math. The SEA tutoring program is held Monday through Thursday from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. This program is a win-win situation for all involved. Besides the obvious benefits for Saukview staff and students, the SEA

tutoring program has also provided students majoring in education at GSU, with the opportunity to develop professionally while working collaboratively with cooperating teachers and gain experience dealing with children of various ages.

"Members of the Student Education Association at GSU who volunteer their time to develop student learning in math and reading are the life force of this project," said Berdusis. "SEA volunteers demonstrate qualities of community leadership as they professionally develop within the field - a great start for tomorrow's teachers."

The number of volunteer tutors has increased tremendously. Last term there were eleven GSU volunteers. Currently there are six GSU volunteers and 8 cooperating teachers from Saukview.

"I am pleased to see so many pre-teachers at GSU come together like soldiers to fulfill a need in our community. This is what being a pre-teacher at GSU is all about," said Berdusis.

Along with generous support of materials and space, Mrs. Spila, principal of Saukview Elementary said, "Saukview School District 194 in south Chicago Heights, IL, in partnership with volunteer students from GSU, set up an after school tutoring program. The program services students in grades first through sixth who have been recommended by their homeroom teacher. This program is so important for those who are having difficulties comprehending the material

when it is taught in a standard classroom setting."

The cooperating teachers of Saukview are excited and appreciative of the support for their students. The parents of the children involved with the program are grateful for the specialized attention that they otherwise would not be able to afford. In a short amount of time, the students of Saukview themselves have shown improvement in areas of interest, behavior, skills and most importantly, self-esteem.

Professors of Education, Dr. Kelly, Ph.D. and Joan Bleck, DEA Advisor, contributed significantly to the initial implementation of the program. Since then, the program has been student run. Presently the leadership of the SEA Tutorial Program is working on obtaining a grant from the National Education Association called Community Learning through America's Schools, (CLASS grant). This grant will be intended to service the increasing population of native Spanish speaking students. Well structured professional development programs for education majors like this one contributes to what makes GSU known for excellence in education, and is what will make it a leader among other universities.

Berdusis and Dutton are currently looking for students who would like to take over and even expand the program next year. People interested in either volunteering or in leadership roles should contact Angelika Berdusis at [aberdusis@mail.govst.edu](mailto:aberdusis@mail.govst.edu) or Tom Dutton at [tomd1968@yahoo.com](mailto:tomd1968@yahoo.com).

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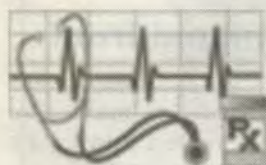
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AMERICAN FOR THE ARTS





## HEALTH AWARENESS

### Which Cancer Is The Deadliest?

(NAPSA)-Pancreatic cancer is "silent" and fast. It accounts for just two percent of all cancer diagnoses, but has been tantamount to a death sentence for many of the over 30,000 Americans who get it each year. While old books and brochures tell its victims to write their wills and say good-bye, there are new treatments that can save their lives.

"The formula that works best is experience plus repetition," says Tufts/New England Medical Center's Chief Surgeon, Dr. William Mackey. "It's in your best interest to find a surgeon who is highly experienced in the treatment of pancreatic cancer and who sees patients with this disease on a very regular basis. Pancreatic cancer is clearly a disease best treated in a major academic medical center by a real pro, and Dr. Michael Steer has proven over many years that he is among the best there is in the treatment of this disease."

Dr. Steer, vice chairman of surgery at Tufts, has devoted his clinical practice to the treatment of patients with pancreatic cancer, and his research to discovering the basic mechanisms underlying pancreatic diseases. Dr. Steer has provided reprieves to dozens of pancreatic cancer patients every year, achieving a 20 percent cure rate for a tumor that chemotherapy can hardly touch.

Medical students are taught early in their careers, "Don't mess with the pancreas." This slipper-shaped gland is situated deep behind the stomach and is part of the digestive tract. It makes enzymes that aid in food digestion and produces insulin, which helps regulate blood sugar levels. When a tumor grows

inside the pancreas, it can remain undetected until it obstructs the bile ducts or other nearby structures. In its early stages, pancreatic cancer is curable through surgery and adjunctive chemotherapy.

Dr. Steer routinely performs the traditional Whipple Operation-still the pancreatic cancer victim's best hope for a cure. "The likelihood of getting the treatment that can save your life at a community hospital is almost nil," he says. "This is one cancer for which the treatment outcome depends highly on the experience and expertise of the treating surgeon and subsequently of the cancer care team."

In inexperienced hands, the surgery often leads to multiple complications, prolonging hospitalization and suffering, and delaying return to normal activities. If appropriately performed, surgery can result in patients' surviving cancer-free for seven, nine or even twelve years after initial diagnosis and treatment.

New painless and noninvasive diagnostic studies allow you to be checked if you are having indigestion, loss of appetite, jaundice or weight loss-symptoms that should prompt suspicion for pancreatic cancer. If you are diagnosed as having pancreatic cancer, or if there is even a chance that your symptoms are related to pancreatic cancer, you should immediately seek treatment by a surgeon highly experienced and expert in its management.

For further information about this disease and its treatment, visit Dr. Steer's Web site [www.pancreasdisease.com](http://www.pancreasdisease.com) or call the pancreatic diseases center at Tufts New England Medical Center (617) 636-9248.

### Household safety for your

Are your household plants safe for pets?

Lisa Aponte-Soto  
Health Columnist

While gathering information, I became involved in a journey of fascinating discoveries. Linda Lantz, a veterinary assistant at the Glensted Animal Hospital admits that while she is not an expert on the threat of household plants, cat lovers should beware that our feline friends "will eat anything, especially any green plants." The problem with this is not that the plants are poisonous to cats. The problem is that cats will consume every bit of the green foliage which can lead to an upset stomach, aches and vomiting.



The Dumb Cane plant

Ms. Lantz claims that there are a lot of old wives tales and myths about certain plants being fatal to pets. For example, those beautiful holiday poinsettias commonly believed to be lethal actually have a low toxicity, but may still make your pet ill. Drooling, vomiting, or nausea due to irritation to the mouth and stomach may occur temporarily following the consumption of this flowering plant.

On the other hand, mistletoe is highly toxic when ingested, resulting in gastrointestinal disorders, cardiovascular collapse, shortness of breath, irregular heart rhythms, and/or erratic behavior. Lillies, readily available in the spring and Easter holiday season, are also highly toxic, but only to cats, with symptoms including vomiting, loss of appetite, lethargy, and even kidney failure.

On Ms. Lantz's recommendation, I ventured over to Busy Bee in Glenwood, where I met horticulturalist Jimmy Kuster to seek his expertise on plant safety. This flora and fauna expert says that "the most important plants to avoid are those with thorns or palms because they can injure your pet." He also recommends pet owners to stay away from Dumb Cane, a common household plant that will cause numbness in the mouth of pets who attempt to eat it. However, the plant is not toxic and the numbness is not permanent.

As I continued to search for more detailed information, I discovered a complete directory on indoor and outdoor plant safety, including a listing of over 100 unsafe plants including lilies, bulbs, ferns, shrubs and more. The manual is offered by the Animal Poison Control Center for a nominal fee of \$15.00, and can be order on the web at [www.aspca.org](http://www.aspca.org) or by phone (888) 426-4435. The website also provides a comprehensive alphabetical listing of toxic plants along with their clinical signs and symptoms.

For more information on household plants and general at home safety tips for your pets, visit [www.vet.com](http://www.vet.com) or the American Veterinary Medical Association [www.amva.org](http://www.amva.org).

### Smog Warnings Lifting



(NAPSA)-Even though Americans are driving more miles and using more energy than ever before, ozone levels in most geographic areas of the country have dropped over the past 20 years, according to a new report by the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Ground-level ozone, or smog as it is commonly called, can pose health challenges for people with respiratory diseases such as asthma, as well as for those who strenuously exert themselves outdoors. Ozone forms on hot summer days when volatile organic compounds fumes from solvents and other chemicals react with nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions from automobiles, power plants, and other sources.

Across the country, the EPA monitors ozone levels for one- and eight-hour periods each day from May through September. Since 1983, results from these EPA tests show that ozone levels have dropped 22 percent based on the one-hour data, and 14 percent based on the eight-hour data.

Cleaner power plants have contributed to the drop in ozone levels, according to Edison Electric Institute. In 2004, NOx emissions from power plants will have fallen 40 percent from 1980 emission levels. For more information, visit [www.eei.org](http://www.eei.org).

**TERRORISM FORCES US TO MAKE A CHOICE. WE CAN BE AFRAID. OR WE CAN BE READY.**

— Lei Sun Te, Office of Emergency Management —

Next time there's a terrorist alert, you can feel helpless or you can feel prepared. It's up to you. The steps to readiness are not difficult. First, make an emergency supply kit for yourself and your family. Set aside supplies to survive three days at home. Water, food, first-aid supplies, clothing, a flashlight and a battery-powered radio. Next, develop a family communications plan so your family can stay in touch during an emergency. Third, learn how to respond to the different types of terrorist threats, such as biological, chemical and radiological.

That information, along with details about kits and plans, is available at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov). Or, call 1-800-BE-READY (1-800-237-3239) for a free brochure, "Preparing Makes Sense. Get Ready Now."

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Part of a campaign from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and The Advertising Council. Richard Corbett, Photographer.



# Entertainment



Toby Hitchcock belts out a Survivor tune during the Pride of Lions set. *Pride of Lions* opened for Alan Parsons.

## "Oasis" continued from Page 5

many bands including: Wings, Al Stewart, and Pilot. Around 1976, the Alan Parsons Project was formed and has contributed a number of award-winning and Grammy nominated albums and songs. As a producer and engineer, Parsons has been a Grammy nominee ten times. With a resume like this, I figured it was definitely worth my while to attend the show.

The first band to take the stage was *Pride of Lions*, a band which I had not heard of. To my surprise *Pride of Lions* is the re-invented, re-incarnated version of the band *Survivor*. Don't get me wrong, they have new songs and new album, but they play all the *Survivor* hits as well. If you're looking to hear "Eye of the Tiger" live and not from the lips of a drunk and slobbering man in a karaoke bar, then catch a *Pride of Lions* concert.

Song writer Jim Peterick, a native of Berwyn, co-founded *Survivor* in the late 1970s. *Survivor* produced hits like "Eye of the Tiger" and "Burning Heart" for the *Rocky* movies. Aside from *Survivor's* Greatest Hits, which was released in June of 1993, the album *Vital Signs* includes the songs, "I Can't Hold Back," "High on You," and "The Search is Over." Peterick has also written songs for bands including: Cheap Trick, REO Speedwagon, and .38 Special. He also has an impressive resume of song

writing and musical performances.

To form *Pride of Lions*, Peterick teamed up with keyboardist Christian Cullen, guitarist Mike Aquino, bassist Clem Hayes and drummer Ed Breckenfeld. The powerful and emotionally charged vocals are provided by a very talented Valparaiso native, Toby Hitchcock. Their performance was outstanding.

About a half hour later, the Parsons band took the stage. The line-up consisted of guitarist Godfrey Townshend, drummer Steve Murphy (Trans-Siberian Orchestra), keyboardist Manny Focarazzo, bassist/vocalist John Montagna and vocalist P.J. Olsson. Immediately, I was overcome by the uniquely perfected sound quality. It was loud, yet quite clear and undistorted. The quality was superior and commanded the attention of the audience. Having not been familiar with his work, I was very impressed. The crowd, who had been previously irritated with the cold icy weather and long line, had all but forgotten their grievances, showing Parsons their approval and appreciation.

I left *Oasis*, feeling somewhat more worldlier and slightly deaf in my right ear. When I arrived back home, I threw in Pink Floyd's *Echoes* and fell asleep to the mysteriously enchanting melodies of "Time."

## "Essay" continued from Page 1

change in our chaotic world." Nancy Brinker, founder of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, who is also serving as a judge, notes that, "One person, one volunteer, one partner at a time has turned my foundation's promises into a purpose."

No fee is required to enter this competition. The panel of judges will select the 19 winners who will be awarded one grand prize of \$100,000; four awards of \$50,000; four awards of \$25,000; and 10 awards of \$10,000. Essays should fall into one of four categories: Personal Reflection, Journalistic Report, Scientific Inquiry, and Fiction. Entrants must be 18 years of age or older. Essays must be no longer than 3,500 words and must be written in English. Winners will be announced in September 2004. This competition is sponsored by the John Templeton Foundation. For entry forms and more information visit [www.powerofpurpose.org](http://www.powerofpurpose.org).

## "Lola" continued from Page 5

running to and from during the scene; however, that idea turned into Lola's thoughts as vocals in the soundtrack.

The ingredients of digital imagery, over the top film editing, a punked out red-haired heroine with tenacious ferocity, and a mesmerizing techno heartbeat, mixes to equal a film well-worth it's independent following.

"The film is basically a fairy-tale machine," says Tykwer. "In life, time stays the way it is; it runs away and gets you closer to death. But we feel that love and passion can overcome everything, including time."

For more information on *Run Lola Run*, or other films by Tom Tykwer, visit: [www.spe.sony.com/classics/runlolarun](http://www.spe.sony.com/classics/runlolarun) or visit <http://tykwer-online.de>.

Other movie recommendations by Professor Parin include: *Gummo*, *Chelsea Walls*, *Crash*, *Cowboy Bebop*, *Spun* and *Amile*.

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## Vacations Of A Lifetime

### Affordable European Travel Packages Take Flight

(NAPSA)-If you've resolved to see more of the world in 2004, you're in good company. But did you know that traveling with a group-versus going on your own could save you a lot of money? Thanks to group travel packages, visiting Europe can be surprisingly affordable and offer more value for your travel dollar.

With group travel packages such as those offered by Cosmos, independent-minded, smart practical travelers can explore the sunny side of charming Europe-saving on travel costs so they can instead spend money on the experience.

Spain and Portugal are two of the year's most popular destinations. But how much could it cost to visit and experience these charming countries that are rich in history and natural beauty? Booking a trip to Spain and Portugal by yourself in the peak traveling season of June, using airline and hotel Web sites, could cost you nearly \$2,500. On the other hand, by taking Cosmos' 14-day Best of Spain & Portugal trip during that same season could save you in the neighborhood of \$900. The Cosmos trip includes visits to such places like Malaga, the Granada-Alhambra Palace, Gibraltar, Seville, Fatima, Coimbra, Oporto, Salamanca, Avila, Segovia, Evora as well as the sandy beaches of Costa del Sol and the olive and orange groves of Andalusia.

The savings leaves travelers with ample pocket money to sample the local



Portuguese wines at Porto, overlooking the Douro River, or buy some vintage port at Hutcheson Feuerheerd Winery. Besides being a cheaper way to travel, Cosmos provides travelers all the benefits of group travel with much of the freedom of an independent vacation to create a balanced experience for each and every traveler. Plus, you have the added benefit of an expert tour director who knows the area, knows what's a good value and can give you pointers on how to get the most out of your vacation.

For those who want to visit all the must-see sights of Spain, Cosmos' 16-day Grand Tour of Spain is the perfect vacation.

This trip is truly a grand tour of Spain's beautiful cities and places such as the Royal Palace, the new Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Loyola Sanctuary and the Peninsula Castle built by the Knights Templar. With air-inclusive prices starting at \$1,626, this trip is quite the bargain if you consider that 16 nights in a hotel comparable to the Cosmos trip accommodations would likely cost you more than \$100 a night.

Expanding the horizons slightly is the 16-day Spain, Portugal and Morocco trip, which covers the fortress city of Avila, Seville, Casablanca, Fez, Tangier, Costa del Sol and La Mancha. Local guides are provided for sightseeing in Madrid, Lisbon, Rabat and Marrakesh. With air-inclusive pricing starting at \$1,485, this trip can save travelers a lot. With all the money saved by booking a Cosmos group travel vacation, travelers can afford to enjoy the exciting shopping that can be found in the region. Visitors to Madrid can find some distinctive treasures, such as the sought-after perfume scents of Alvarez Gumez; the museum-quality guitars found at Conde Hermanos and Jos• Ramirez; all things flamenco found in El Flamenco; and a selection of sombreros found at Casa Yustas, Madrid's oldest hat shop.

For Cosmos reservations or to receive the Cosmos' Europe 2004 brochure, consumers can visit [www.cosmos.com](http://www.cosmos.com) or call 866-603-1313.

Visit the Phoenix online at [www.riseofthephoenixonline.com](http://www.riseofthephoenixonline.com)